

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 158891

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ORIGIN SS-15

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 158891

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS:EGEN, OVIP VE

SUBJECT: UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON'S CARACAS ARRIVAL
AND DEPARTURE STATEMENTS

1. UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE CARACAS
JULY 7 AT 2300 ON PA 443. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARRIVAL
STATEMENT:

QUOTE IT IS A REAL PLEASURE TO ARRIVE IN CARACAS,
THE MODERN, DYNAMIC CAPITAL OF TODAY'S VENEZUELA.
I HAVE LOOKED FORWARD TO THIS VISIT AND TO THE
CONVERSATIONS WHICH IT WILL MAKE POSSIBLE WITH THE
LEADERS OF THIS GREAT NATION.

IN WASHINGTON, I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK
WITH VISITING OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF
VENEZUELA. IN PARIS, AT THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE
IN APRIL, I HAD EXTENDED CONVERSATIONS WITH
DR. MANUEL PEREZ GUERRERO, MINISTER OF STATE
FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. NOW I LOOK
FORWARD TO REPEATING AND EXPANDING UPON THOSE
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PAGE 02 STATE 158891

CONVERSATIONS.

VENEZUELA HAS BEEN VERY IMPORTANT TO THE UNITED
STATES. IT IS OUR LARGEST SINGLE SUPPLIER OF

CRUDE AND REFINED PETROLEUM; IT IS A MAJOR MARKET

FOR THE EXPORT OF US GOODS AND SERVICES; AND IT IS HOST TO BILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF U.S. PRIVATE INVESTMENT. BUT TODAY, WITH ITS NEW INCOME FROM OIL, AND WITH ITS DEMONSTRATED CONCERN FOR THE WORLD'S INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, VENEZUELA HAS TAKEN ON A NEW IMPORTANCE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE UNITED STATES IS RECIPROCALLY VERY IMPORTANT FOR VENEZUELA.

AS WE ALL LOOK TOWARD THE FUTURE, AS WE SEEK SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF INTERDEPENDENCE, AND AS WE TRY TO BUILD BRIDGES AMONG OUR VARIOUS WORLD GROUPINGS AND COMMUNITIES, VENEZUELA HAS A KEY ROLE TO PLAY. THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THAT ROLE AND I LOOK FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITY DURING THE NEXT TWO DAYS TO DISCUSS IT IN MEANINGFUL FASHION WITH THE LEADERS OF THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT.

THANK YOU, AND I REPEAT THAT IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE HERE. UNQUOTE

2. DEPARTURE SCHEDULED FOR 0100 JULY 10 VIA RG 807. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT:

QUOTE THIS VISIT TO CARACAS HAS BEEN A MOST IMPRESSIVE AND UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE.

TO THE BEAUTY OF YOUR CITY AND THE DYNAMISM OF ITS DAILY LIFE THERE IS NOW ADDED THE SENSE OF MOVEMENT AND OF PROGRESS WHICH CHARACTERIZES TODAY'S VENEZUELA.

I HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO MEET WITH YOUR LEADERS AND TO DISCUSS WITH THEM THEIR CONCEPT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PAGE 03 STATE 158891

VENEZUELA'S PLACE IN TODAY'S INTERDEPENDENT WORLD. WE HAVE CONSIDERED THE NEW PROBLEMS OF OUR ERA AND SOME POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THEM. NONE OF THE ANSWERS ARE EASILY ARRIVED AT, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO THINK THAT THROUGH DISCUSSIONS SUCH AS WE HAVE JUST CONCLUDED WE ALL MOVE CLOSER TO A PLANE OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION WHICH CAN LEAD US TOWARD THOSE SOLUTIONS.

THE UNITED STATES AND VENEZUELA HAVE COOPERATED IN THE PAST, AND I AM CONVINCED THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO COOPERATE IN THE FUTURE. SUCH

COOPERATION WILL BE TO OUR MUTUAL BENEFIT, BUT

IT WILL ALSO BE TO THE BENEFIT OF AMERICA AS
A WHOLE. AND IN A STILL LARGER SENSE,
COOPERATION BETWEEN US CAN HELP IN BRINGING
ABOUT THOSE CHANGES ON THE TOTAL SCENE WHICH ARE
ESSENTIAL IF MANKIND IS TO MOVE FORWARD IN PEACE
AND HARMONY TOWARD A BETTER WORLD.

I AM INDEED GRATEFUL FOR THE MANY KIND ATTENTIONS
SHOWN ME DURING MY STAY IN CARACAS, AND I LOOK
FORWARD TO FURTHER AND CLOSER RELATIONS WITH THE
GREAT NATION OF VENEZUELA IN THE DAYS AND YEARS
TO COME.

THANK YOU. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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